

makes participation of private media outlets voluntary, and it mandates that DPS work with law enforcement agencies in bordering states to develop a regional amber alert system.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The burden of disseminating emergency information falls on the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and General Services Department (GSD). These agencies would have to draw on existing resources to develop and maintain the amber alert system.

RELATES

The bill relates to and partially duplicates HB 16. Major differences are:

- HB 16 mandates that the amber alert system rely on state and AM radio transmission to disseminate information, and it details the procedures by which these media shall issue amber alerts. SB 110 gives DPS the authority to set the protocol by which state and private media shall issue amber alerts.
- HB 16 defines child abduction for purposes of the amber alert system. SB 110 gives DPS the authority to set the criteria for what constitutes child abduction.
- HB 16 provides a criminal penalty for knowing submission of false information resulting in the declaration of an amber alert, making it a petty misdemeanor. SB 110 does not enact a criminal penalty.
- HB 16 contains an emergency clause. SB 110 does not.
- SB 110 mandates DPS work with law enforcement agencies in neighboring states to develop a regional amber alert system. HB 16 does not.

JCF/njw